

Sheriff
Lake County



Gary S. Borders

360 W. Ruby Street Tavares, Florida 32778
(352) 343-9501

May 21, 2007

Marlene H. Dorch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: *Service Rules for the 698-746, 747-762, 777-792 Bands, Implementing a Nationwide Broadband Interoperable Public Safety Network in the 700 MHz Band, Assignment of 30 MHz of 700 MHz Spectrum to the Public Safety Broadband Trust. (Dockets 06-150, 06-229, RM No. 11348)*

Dear Ms. Dorch,

In recent years, communications interoperability deficiencies have been highlighted by the events of September 11, 2001, Hurricane Katrina, and numerous other incidents. The ability for wideband and broadband networks to be constructed on a local and regional basis to assist public safety in their efforts is necessary, to assist first responders on a day to day basis in protecting lives and property.

While the availability and construction of a nationwide interoperable public safety network, thru the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Trust is a viable concept that many public safety agencies are receptive to, this system should not be constructed on any spectrum previously assigned to local and state use, via the regional planning committees (746-806 MHz). The ability for locally owned and operated wideband data and voice technologies to be licensed to local and state jurisdictions should be maintained as an option for local and state agencies, and

using the proposed nationwide broadband public safety network should remain a choice as well. This network, however should be licensed and operated outside of the existing public safety spectrum, allocated at 746-806MHz.

The ability for locally owned and operated broadband and wideband voice and data systems should not be disregarded in favor of the nationwide network that eliminates local and state agencies from being able to choose coverage requirements, air interfaces, and a selection of end user equipment that meets local budget requirements.

Therefore, we join the numerous local agencies and regional planning committees (RPC's) in urging the commission to allow local and regional wideband and broadband systems to be constructed, and should the commission deem a nationwide network viable, authorize spectrum outside the existing 24 MHz of public safety spectrum for that purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jason S. Matthews
Radio Technology*